(ii) Improvement of O.P.D. facilities in Safdarjung Hospital, (iii) Improvement of efficiency of indoor case.

Rise in Newsprint price by the Mysore Paper Mills

@*373. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: SHRIMATI VEENA * VERMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mysore Paper Mills, a public sector unit, has recently raised the newsprint price;

(b) if so, what was the increase per tonne and what is the price now; and the number of times the price of newsprint has been increased and by how much during the last three years; and

(c) what is the reason for the present increase?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House *[See* Appendix CLIV, Annexure No. 93]

(c) Increase in the price of newsprint has been reported to be mainly on account of increase in input costs.

Reopening of the units of the Metal Box India Ltd.

*374. SHRI B.L. PANWAR:
DR. ABRAR AHMED KHAN.

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether various units of Metal Box India Ltd. are lying closed at present; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to reopen them and to protect the interest of over 6500 employees of the company?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Eight out of the nine units of Metal Box India Ltd., were closed down between November 1987 and January 1988.* Subsequently, two units in Bombay were reopened in July 1988 and the Madras unit commenced operations in April, 1989.

(b) M/s. Metal Box India Ltd., has made a reference before the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction in January 1988 under Section 15 of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. The matter is pending before BIFR

Tidal Power Project in the Rami of Kutch

*375. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of * ENERGY be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 190 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 31st July. 1989 and state:

(a) whether the tcchno-cconomic Evaluation of the feasibility report for the tidal power project in Rami of Kutch as also the further investigations and studies on certain aspects of the project have since been done;

(b) if so, what are the details of the findings of the studies and final decision taken thereon;

(c) what are the salient features of the project;

(d) whether projects for coastal areas other than Rann of Kutch have also been considered; if so, what arc the details thereof; and

(c) what is the estimated cost per unit of power to be so generated?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI * M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) While initiating techno-economic evaluation of the feasibility report of the tidal power project in Rann of Kutch in 1988-89. it was decided to carry out further investigations and studies, which arc still in progress.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

@Previously Starred Question 213 transferred om the 16th May, 1990

(c) The project envisages installation of 36 units of 25 MW each, totalling 900 MW with expected generation of about 1690 GWH (million units) annually.

(d) No other tidal power projects are under investigation.

(e) On the basis of the December, 1987 level cost of the project, the cost per unit of power is estimated to be around 96 paise/KWH..

Court decisions on drug issues

*376. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERM A: SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of writ petitions filed by drug companies challenging the price fixation orders of the Government under Drugs Prices Control Orders, 1979 and 1987 in different courts;

(b) what are the details of cases where judgements have been delivered and what is the date on which each judgement was delivered;

(c) the cases where his Ministry has implemented the decisions in the judgement; and

(d) the cases in which decisions are still to be implemented and the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) A Statement giving the requisite details is annexed. *[See* Appendix CLIV, Annexure No. 94].

(c) and (d) In the background of the judgements, the follow up action is in progress in respect of cases referred to in rtp(y to Parts (a) and (b) above.

Closure of Titagarh Paper Mill

@ 376-A. SHRI KAHNU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Titagarh Paper Mill No. 3 at Chandwar in Orissa has been closed down for more than one year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of workers rendered' unemployed as a result thereof; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to reopen the Mill?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Deteriorating financial position, scarcity of raw materials obsolete equipment and machinery, labour unrest and management problems e.tc. are the main reasons for the closure of the Mill.

(c^ About 1800 workers were directly employed in Mill No. 3 of Titagarh Paper Mill before its closure.

(d) Titagarh Paper Mill is a sick industrial company in terms of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. As required under the Act, the company has made a reference to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in June 1987 Final verdict of the BIFR is awaited.

Drug Production by M / s. Infar

*377. SHRIMATI MANORAMA PANDEY: DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to tht answer to Unstarred Question 820 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th March, 1990 and state:

(a) what was the production of Metaclopromide by Ms. lrifar during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) when and what price was fixed pack-wise and strength-wise of each

^Previously Starred Question 356 transferred from the 25th May, t990.